



IN THE SPECIFICATION:

[0034] In view of the results of the tests described above, an appropriate surface treating method of the engine valve 10 (titanium part) comprises the following steps. In a first step, from a correlation of the hardness against the film thickness  $t$  of the hard oxide film 18 formed on a surface of the valve 10, an effective thickness of the hard oxide film 18 corresponding to a required film hardness is determined. The effective ~~roughness  $R_z$~~  thickness is, for example, 14 micrometers or less (FIG. 5).